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STATINTL

CBS News Analysis
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CIA DESERVES A NATIONAL VOTE OF THANKS

BILL DOWNS: "And some revised thoughts about America's
super secret CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. The details in just
a moment..."

STATINTL

"Since the Cuban invasion fiasco of last April, and the
hullabaloo over the part the Central Intelligence Agency played
in that abortive Caribbean adventure, the super-secret arm
of the White House has crawled back under its security blanket
where it belongs. And although the CIA now is pursuing anonymity
with a vengeance, it's not likely that the big intelligence operation
will be allowed to forget its part in the unhappy Cuban invasion
for a long time to come.

"The Republicans most certainly make President Kennedy's go-
ahead for the Bay of Pigs landing a political issue for the 1962
and '64 elections. Fidel Castro's propaganda machine hardly lets
a day go by without blaming the CIA for just about everything.
And now the Central Intelligence Agency is catching it in its
propaganda neck again as being the evil power behind United
States intervention in the Dominican Republic's political crisis.
The sending of a U.S. Navy flotilla to international waters off
the Dominican Republic was, of course, much more than a CIA
phase of Washington policy concerning defense of the Western
hemisphere, about which much more will be said and debated.

"However, from what it is now known of this government's
swift and firm reaction to the dangerous crisis in the Dominican
Republic, the Central Intelligence Agency deserves a national vote
of thanks for a job done quietly, efficiently, and effectively.
And, without CIA involvement in the controversial politics of the
Caribbean as happened in the chaotic Cuban affairs seven months
ago. Using sound intelligence from the capital of Ciudad Trujillo,
now Santo Domingo, and apparently from inside Cuba itself, the
United States was able to use its power, prestige and persuasion
to prevent the island government from returning to the dictatorial
rule of the Trujillo family on the right, hand, while on the left
Castro's pro-communists were unable to send in outside help to
engineer a coup of their own.